

## CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES

LEVEL 59 MLC CENTRE 19-29 MARTIN PLACE SYDNEY NSW 2000 61-2-9373-9200 http://canberra.usembassy.gov/

## PLEASE CIRCULATE THIS IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT TO AS MANY AMERICAN CITIZENS AS POSSIBLE

## **CYCLONE YASI - FEBRUARY 2, 2011**

Cyclone Yasi, a Category 5 cyclone, is expected to make landfall in Northern Queensland between February 2, 2011 and February 3, 2011. The Australian Government has warned that this storm poses an extremely serious threat to life and property, particularly in between Port Douglas and Townsville. The Cyclone warning extends for island and coastal areas from Cape Melville and Sarina, extending inland to Croydon and Hughenden. The U.S. Consulate General in Sydney encourages all Americans living in or visiting northern Queensland to remain aware of their situation and to follow the directions of emergency authorities.

For current information on Cyclone Yasi, please refer to the Australian Bureau of Meteorology website at <a href="http://www.bom.gov.au/cyclone/">http://www.bom.gov.au/cyclone/</a>. Anyone requiring emergency assistance in flood and storm affected areas should call the **State Emergency Service** on 132 500.

If you have urgent concerns that you think are not being addressed, or critical information about conditions in your area that you wish to bring to our immediate attention, please respond to this message at <a href="mailto:SydneyACS@state.gov">SydneyACS@state.gov</a>, or telephone the American Citizen Services Unit at the U.S. Consulate General in Sydney during business hours at (02) 9373-9200. An alternate number for reaching us after hours for emergencies is (04) 1621 7662.

Additionally, the U.S. Consulate General in Sydney can provide assistance to American citizens affected by the cyclone by replacing lost or damaged U.S. passports and providing information on replacing other important documents that may become lost or damaged, such as birth certificates and marriage certificates.

We also urge all Americans planning to visit the affected regions to review carefully their travel plans. For the most current cyclone information, please refer to <a href="http://www.qld.gov.au/cyclone/">http://www.qld.gov.au/cyclone/</a>.

For the latest security information, Americans living and traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs Internet web site at <a href="http://travel.state.gov">http://travel.state.gov</a>, where the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Alerts can be found. Up-to-date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-800-407-4747 toll free in the U.S., or, for callers outside the U.S. and Canada, a regular toll line on 1-317-472-2328. These numbers are available from 8.00am to 8.00pm Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, except U.S. federal holidays.